



ECS to Grade 12

# Guide to Education

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Summary of Key Changes  
2020–2021 School Year



# GUIDE TO EDUCATION: ECS TO GRADE 12

## SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES: 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR

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Page	Change
<b>General</b> Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD)	References to Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD) have been removed throughout the <i>Guide</i> to align with changes to RCSD funding in the new funding model.
<b>General</b> Student Assessment	References to student evaluation throughout the <i>Guide</i> have been updated to student assessment to align with the terminology of the <i>Education Act</i> . Accordingly, the Student Evaluation Policy has been renamed the Student Assessment Policy.
<b>General</b> Minimum Hours of Instruction	References to minimum hours of instruction have been updated to align with language in the <i>Funding Manual for School Authorities 2020/21 School Year</i> . School authorities and ECS operators must provide a specified minimum hours of instruction to students/children. For children with severe disabilities or severe language delay, ECS operators must provide access to a minimum of 400 hours of instruction.
<b>Page xiii</b> School Re-entry Plan	This section was created to remind <i>Guide</i> users that the School Re-entry Plan is subject to change and that the School Re-entry Plan web page should be monitored for updates.
<b>Page 21</b> Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act	The information in this section has been updated to align with new duty-to-report requirements in the amended <i>Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act</i> .
<b>Page 22</b> Protection of Students with Life-threatening Allergies Act	This section has been created to share information and requirements under the new <i>Protection of Students with Life-threatening Allergies Act</i> .
<b>Pages 25 and 31</b> Practice Review of Teachers and Teacher Leaders Regulation; Professional Practice Standards for the Teaching Profession	These sections have been updated to align with new leadership requirements reflected in the <i>Practice Review of Teachers and Teacher Leaders Regulation</i> .
<b>Page 31</b> Standards for Seclusion and Physical Restraint in Alberta Schools	This section has been created to share information about the new Standards for Seclusion and Physical Restraint in Alberta Schools.
<b>Page 33</b> Funding Manual for School Authorities	Information and references have been updated to align with Education's new funding and assurance framework, and details regarding policy and requirements for education planning and results reporting have been incorporated.

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Page	Change
<b>Pages 38–39</b> First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education	This section has been updated to reflect the consolidation of previous grants into a new First Nations, Métis and Inuit Grant.
<b>Pages 41–42</b> Early Childhood Services	This section has been updated to align with funding requirements in the <i>Funding Manual for School Authorities 2020/21 School Year</i> .
<b>Page 52</b> Senior High School Programming	This section has been created to communicate new information and expectations to school authorities for senior high school programming.
<b>Pages 52–53</b> Organization of Instruction	This section has been created to communicate new information and expectations for school leaders planning senior high school course instruction. The requirement of a minimum of 25 hours of instruction per credit remains in place for only a small number of courses. Students enrolled in senior high school summer, evening and weekend programs have access to at least 16 hours of instruction per credit.
<b>Page 58</b> English as a Second Language	This section has been updated to confirm that school authorities are to continue providing annual language proficiency assessments and ongoing monitoring and documentation of English language learners.
<b>Pages 66–69</b> Locally Developed Courses	This section has been updated to confirm that authorized senior high school locally developed courses are to continue to be instructed by a certificated teacher.
<b>Pages 86–87</b> Home Education	This section has been updated to incorporate changes regarding funding, notification and program supervision.
<b>Page 90</b> Shared Responsibility Programs	This section has been updated to align with requirements in the <i>Funding Manual for School Authorities 2020/21 School Year</i> respecting the minimum percentage of school authority–provided programming for grades 1 to 12.
<b>Page 91</b> Charter Schools	This section has been updated to incorporate vocation-based education and changes regarding applications for a charter.
<b>Page 95</b> Guidelines for Time-out in Alberta Schools	This section has been created to share information about the new <i>Guidelines for Time-out in Alberta Schools</i> .
<b>Pages 130–134</b> Course Challenge	This section has been amended with a description of how school authorities are to use the course challenge process to correctly recognize the learning of Alberta students who have taken non-Alberta coursework outside of the province.

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<b>Page</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Pages 135–137</b> Credits for Waived Prerequisites	This section has been updated to clarify that waived prerequisite credits are only awarded when prerequisites are waived.
<b>Page 142</b> Prevention of Abuse, Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination in Schools	This section has been created to share information about the Respect in School online training program for educators and education staff.
<b>Page 142</b> Brain Story Certification Training	This section has been created to share information about the online Brain Story Certification course for those seeking a deeper understanding of brain development and its consequences for lifelong health.
<b>Pages 143–148</b> Appendix 1: Contacts	This section has been updated with new departmental contact information.